



The Story of the Chinese New Year

(Told through ChatGPT images from the view of the fictitious Man with 10 Rings)

By Ryn

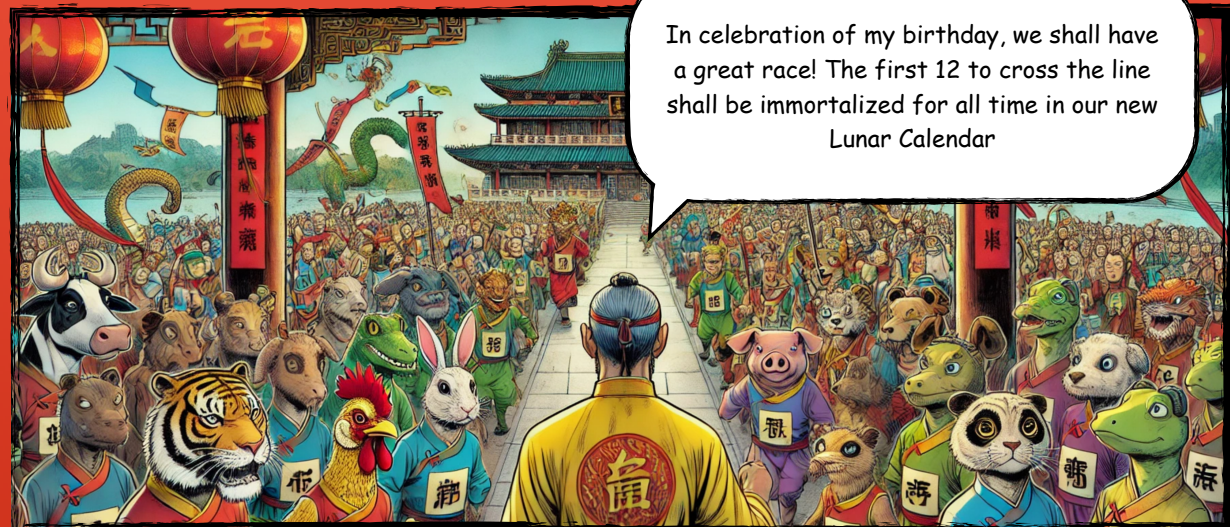
Long ago, in China there was a man with 10 golden magic rings. One day he fell and discovered one of their many mysteries.



They were portals into another world!
He had stumbled upon a speech by the great Jade Emperor of Ancient China



In celebration of my birthday, we shall have
a great race! The first 12 to cross the line
shall be immortalized for all time in our new
Lunar Calendar



Racers ready!



4, 3, 2, 1





GO!

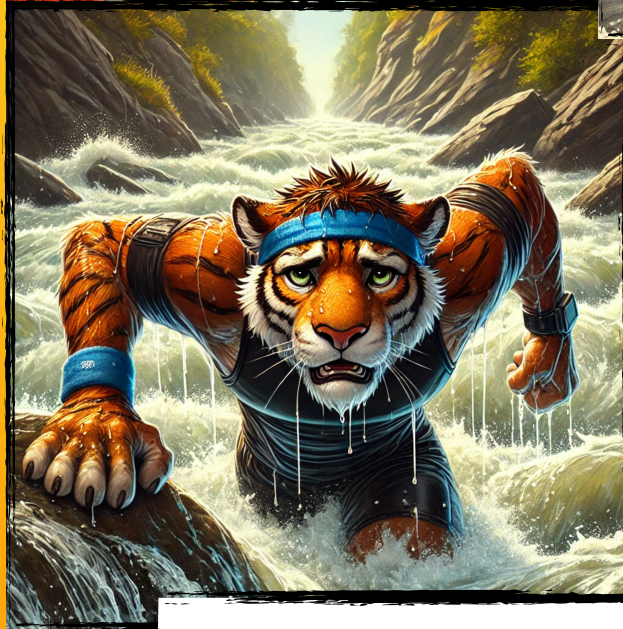


And they're off!



The cat & mouse were once friends. Both were poor swimmers, but were clever enough to convince the Ox to carry them. The mischievous Rat pushed the cat overboard just at the last moment to win the race alone, and to create an eternal enemy in his once-friend the cat. The Rat finished 1st and the Ox in 2nd place





Close on the heels of the Ox was the Tiger who had trouble making his way across the river as heavy currents pushed it downstream. But with its powerful strength, Tiger made to shore to finish 3rd.



The rabbit was well-positioned to win the race and was hopping along the stones to cross the river when he slipped! Fortunately there was a log he was able grab a hold, but unable to swim the rabbit just had to wait until the log floated across the river. Thankfully, the dragon came along to help speed it up. Rabbit ultimately finished in 4th place.



Everyone assumed that the dragon was surely win, having not only the strength and speed, but the gift of flight. However the dragon looked out for others along the way, helping those in need including an aimless rabbit whose log wouldn't float across the river. Dragon finished in 5th place.



The snake slithered its way along the path. The horse nearly overtook it in the end, but as it neared the finish line it saw the horse was about to finish before it. Not wanting to lose to the horse, it scared it and jumped past it to cement its position in 6th place



The horse got off to a great start, but after a brief spill and a scratch, ultimately finished 7th place after the snake snuck up behind it to scare the horse, causing the snake to jump ahead.



Working together, sheep, monkey, and rooster cooperated to finish in 8th, 9th and 10th positions



Though the dog was a great swimmer and faster on land than most, it told the emperor that it was in desperate need of a bath, so it took a little break to enjoy the water, causing him to finish 11th



Right when the emperor was going to close the race, an "oink" sound was heard: it was the pig. The pig felt hungry in the middle of the race, so it stopped, ate something, and then fell asleep. After it awoke, it finished the race in 12th place.



The emperor was thrilled but surprised to find that the rat won the Great Race and would take its position at the start of the great Chinese zodiac. He was rewarded handsomely with that drip drip



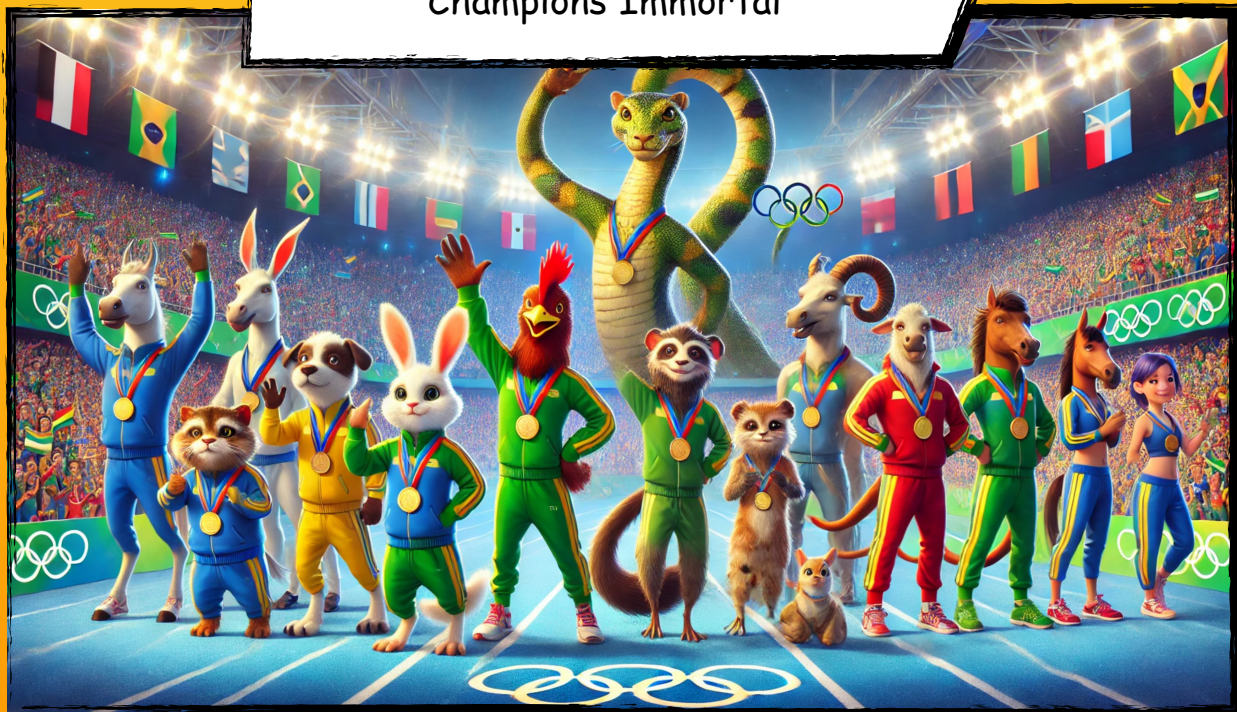


All animals from the farthest regions of China participated in the great race, but in the end, the rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, monkey, rooster, dog and pig prevailed and have come to be immortalized in Chinese culture





Champions Immortal







The man with the gold rings, having learned about the history of the Great Race, explored another portal ring, and would learn about the story of Nian.

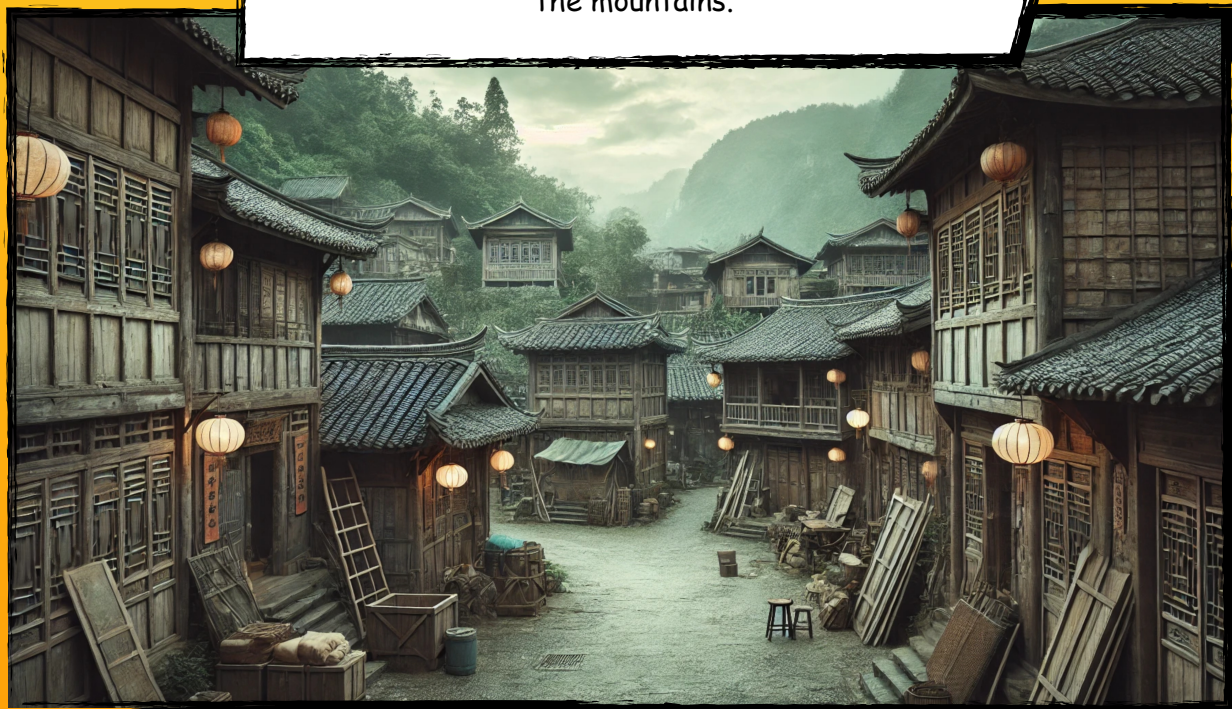


A long time ago in China there lived a terrible monster named Nian who came to terrorize the village and eat the people and animals each Chinese New Year





Leading up to the festival, and in fear of Nian,
Villagers would pack up their belongings and head to
the mountains.





Each year, the villagers would return after the Chinese New Year to discover that Nian had destroyed their village. The community would always band together to rebuild.





After many years of the people having to rebuild each year, an old man gathered the villagers around with an idea. They could scare Nian away with his fears: the color red, loud noises, and fire. That year, when the Chinese New Year came, the people stayed and celebrated with all the things Nian fears...



Nian never returned,



The man knew the rings had many more stories to tell. Some not appropriate given the timing. So he collected the golden ring portals and tucked them away to explore on another day.

THE END

